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SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

GIANT 48 PAGES

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DIRECT EDITION

THEY'RE BACK!!!

SONIC KIDS



Back



Forward



Stop



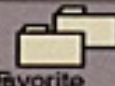
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**SONIC THE
HEDGEHOG**

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

SONIC KIDS 2

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"Zoneward Bound"

*Illustrated by Sam Maxwell
and Harvey Mercadoocasio*

Colored by Joshua D. and Aimee R. Ray

"My Secret Guardian"

*Illustrated by Manny Galan
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"Eve of Destruction"

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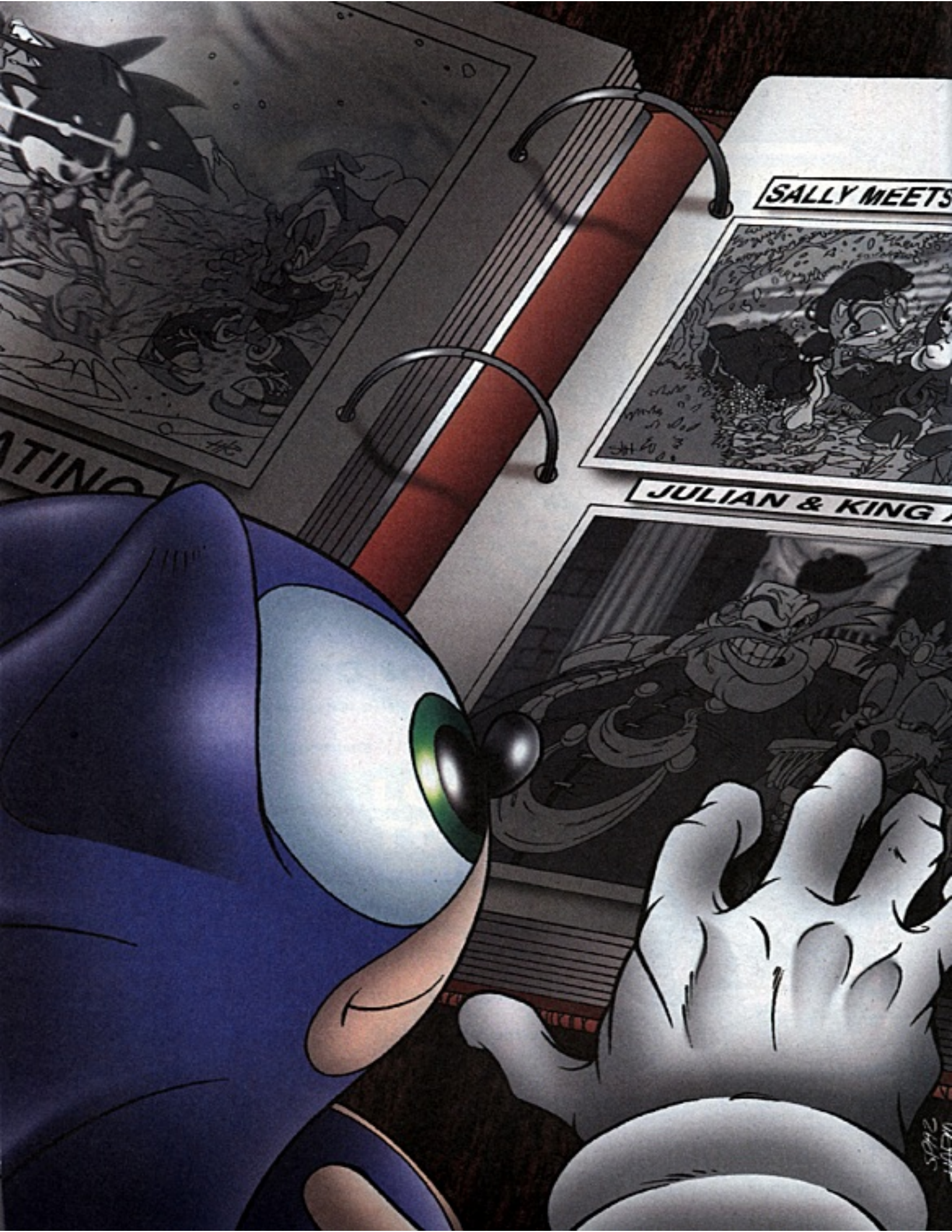
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Richard Goldwater



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SALLY MEETS

JULIAN & KING

SONIC KIDS *in* ZONEWARD BOUND

PART ONE

ONE WINTER'S MORNING, IN KNOTHOLE VILLAGE...

WE MAKE
A GREAT TEAM,
SONIC--SNOW DOUBT
ABOUT IT!

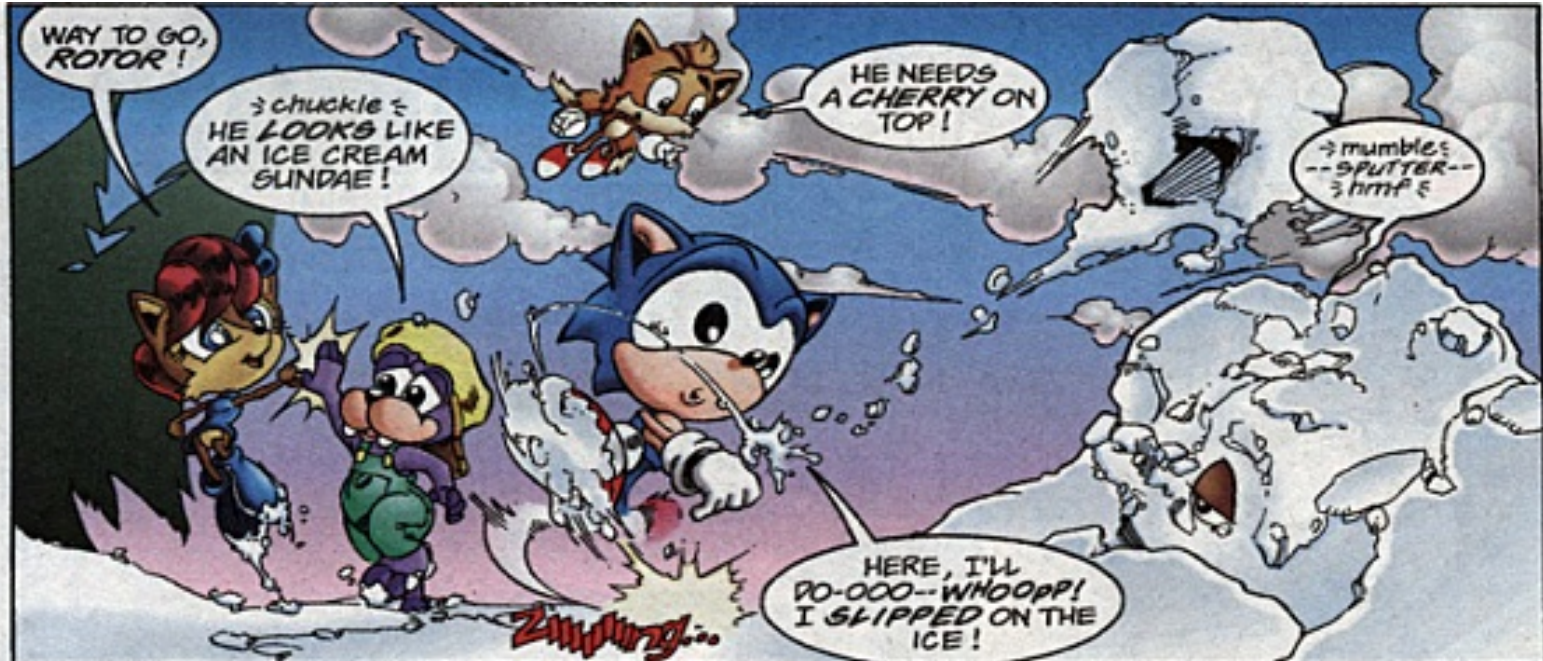
YOU BETCHA,
LITTLE BUDDY! JUST
KEEP SPINNING THOSE
TAILS 'TIL ANTOINE
CRIES "UNCLE!"

ALORS!
ZIS IS MY
WATERLOO!

YOU'RE A
WIZARD WHEN IT
COMES TO
BUILDING THINGS,
BOOMER!

THANKS, PRINCESS...
BUT CALL ME ROTOR. I'M
GETTIN' TOO OLD
TO BE CALLED BOOMER
ANYMORE.

**BOMBS
AWAY!**





PRINCESS SALLY,
I WOULD THINK YOU'D
KNOW BETTER.

I KNOW,
ROSIE...
sniffle
I'M
SORRY.



I WAS J-UST SOB
PLAYING WITH MY F-FRIENDS
choke TO KEEP FROM TH-
THINKING ABOUT--D-D-R'DDY
... boo-hoo-hoo!

AH, THERE
NOW, MY DEAR... I'M
SORRY IF I LOST
MY TEMPER...

AND WE'RE
SORRY TOO,
ROSIE...

BUCK UP,
SALLY--WE'RE
WITH YOU ALL
THE WAY!



TH-THANKS!
sniffle YOU'RE
SUH-SUCH GOOD
FRIENDS!

Ahh...
I'VE GOT AN
IDEA!



I'M SURE THE POND
BY THE OLD WISHING WELL
IS FROZEN OVER. WHY
DON'T YOU GO SKATING?
I'LL BRING A SNACK DOWN
LATER, OKAY?

OKAY!



*YOU SAW TAILS' FIRST FLIGHT IN SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #5-- www.freditor.com.

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I THOUGHT ROSIE WAS
BRINGING A SNACK...
I'M HUNGRY!

SHE WILL
SOON.

WELL,
I NEED A
DRINK OF
WATER!

* TRUE BLUE SONIC CREW QUESTION: WHEN WAS
THE FIRST TIME WE SAW SONIC AT THIS WELL? FIRST
TEN CORRECT REPLIES WILL SEE THEIR NAMES IN SONIC-
GRAMS -- JFG

UUNNNNHH!
THIS THING IS FROZEN--
GIMME A HAND,
BOOM BOX!

COMING--

MMMMF!
C'MON--PUT
YOUR WEIGHT
INTO IT!

I--
SURGIE
AM!

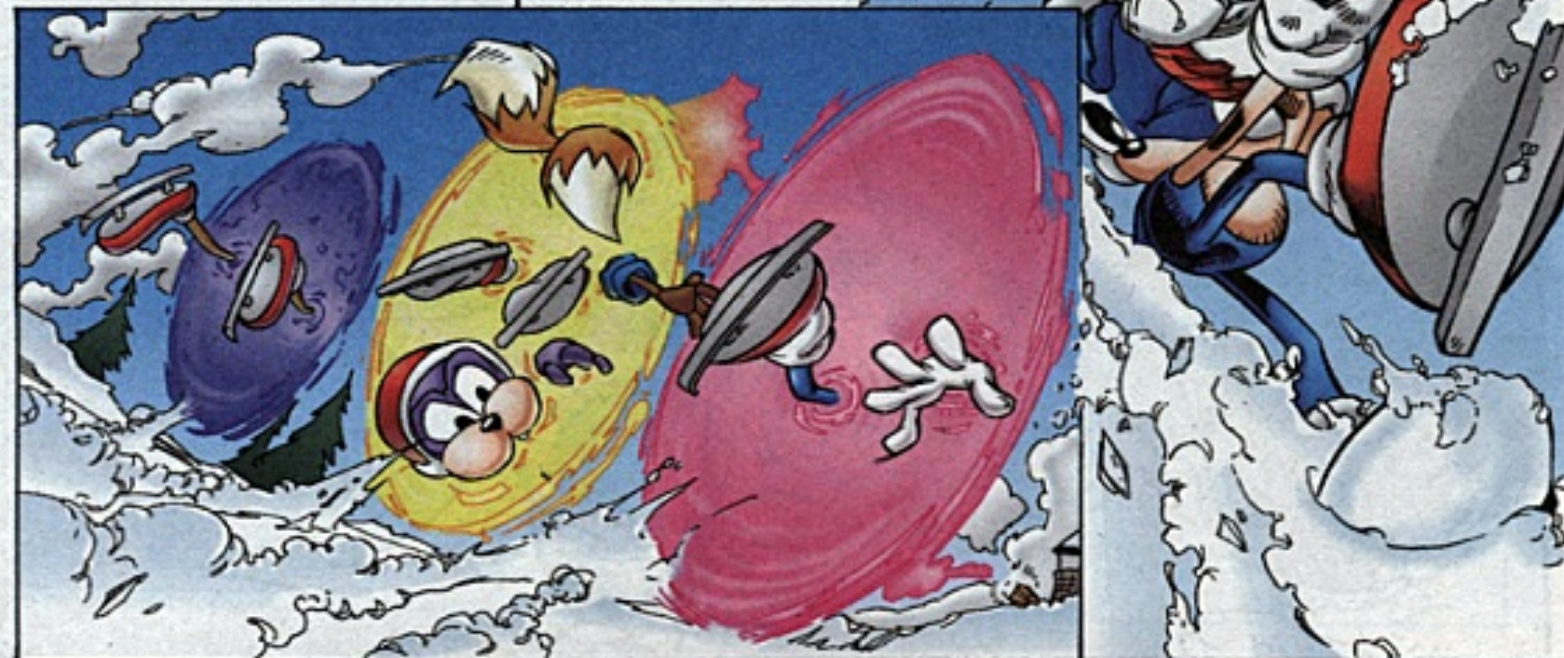
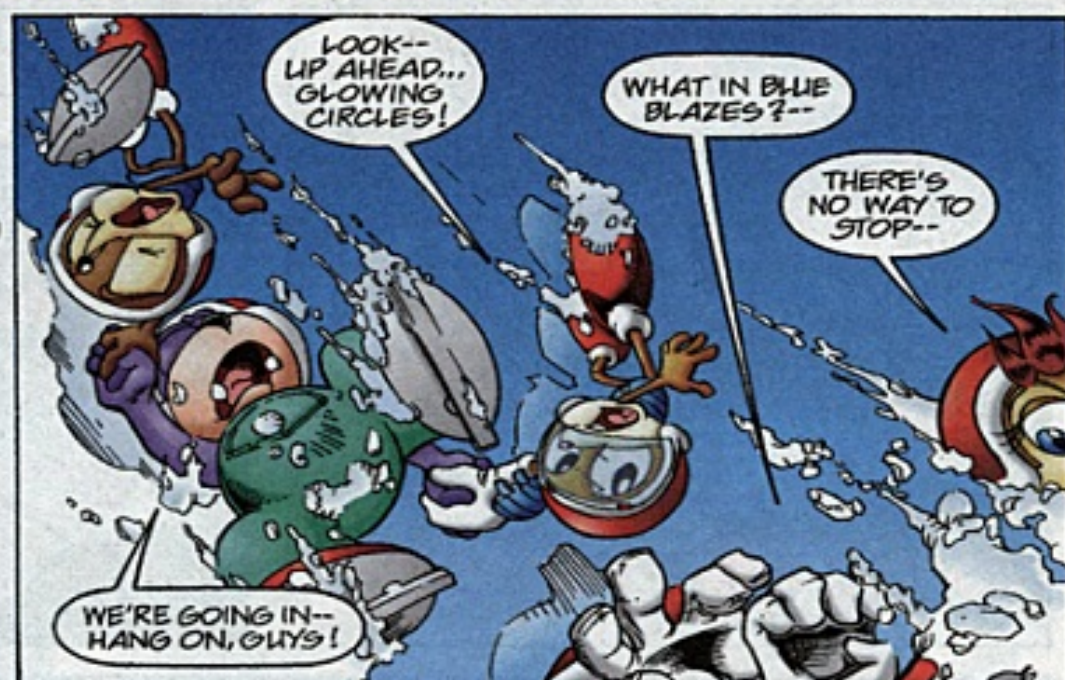
POP!

AAAGH!
DON'T PUT
YOUR WEIGHT
ONTO ME!

IT'S LOOSE!

THE
D






SONIC KIDS


in:

ZONEWARD BOUND

PART TWO

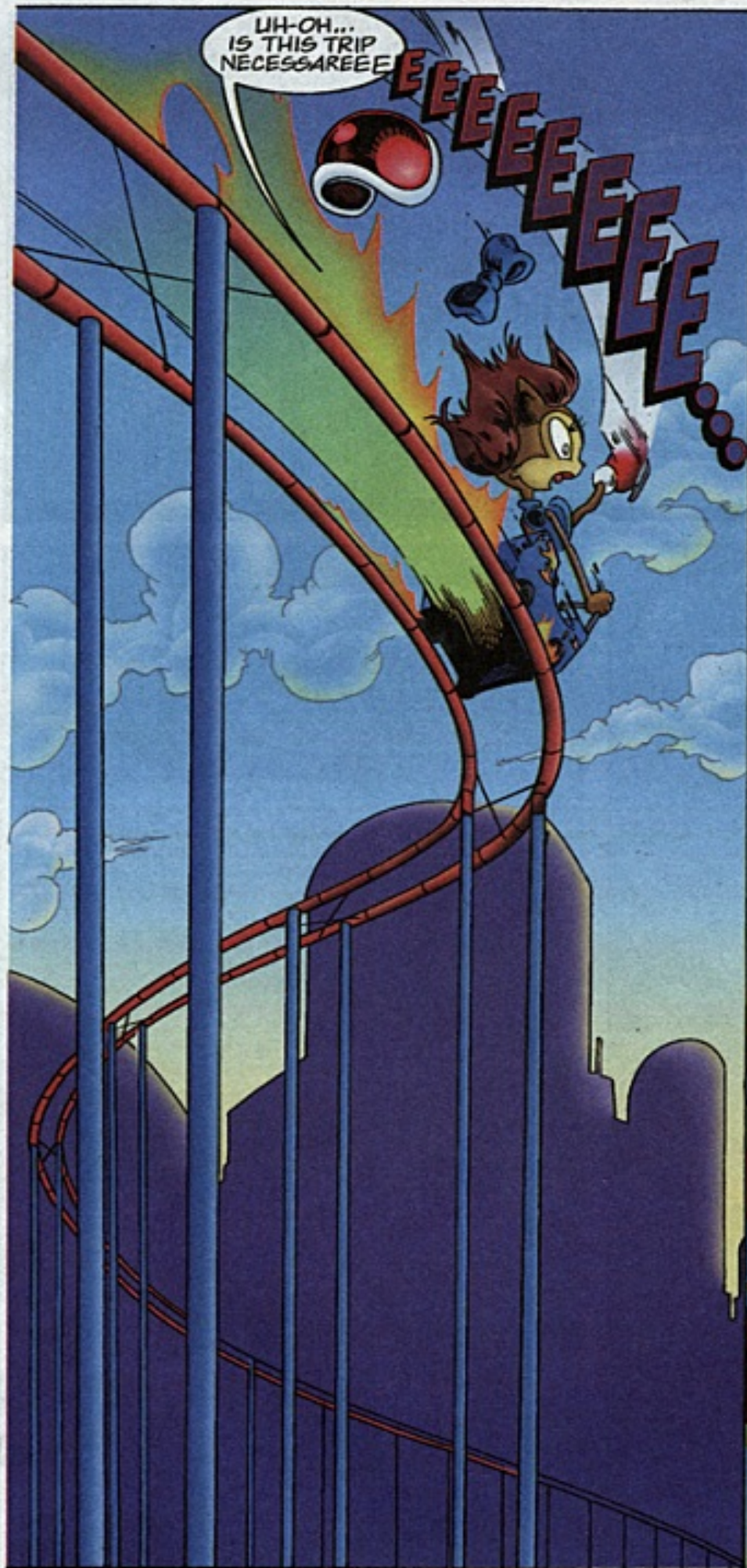


JEEPERS!
WHERE AM
I?



OOOOOF!

WHEREVER
IT IS, I'VE
ARRIVED!



I'M PRINCESS SALLY ACORN...
I MAY BE THE NEW RULER OF MOBIUS
A LOT SOONER THAN I EXPECTED!
I'VE GOT TO GET A GRIP ON MY
SITUATION AND FAST!



THERE!
THAT'S
BETTER...
JULAYLA*
TAUGHT ME
THAT A
LEADER
NEEDS TO
MAINTAIN
CONTROL
AT ALL
TIMES!

Hmmm--IS
THAT SOMETHING
ON THE
HORIZON?

IT LOOKS
LIKE ... NO--
IT COULDN'T
BE!

DADDY!
IT IS YOU!

* JULAYLA IS SALLY'S
TUTOR, SEEN ELSEWHERE
IN THIS ISSUE--EDDY TOR.

DADDY! WHY IS
YOUR FACE MADE OUT
OF GREEN CRYSTAL?
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
PLEASE ANSWER
ME!

MY WHOLE WORLD
IS SHATTERED!

BUT IT'S MY
DUTY TO CARRY ON
AND DO MY BEST!

I HOPE
THAT MY FELLOW
"FREEDOM FIGHTERS"
AND I ARE UP TO THE
CHALLENGE!



I AM YOU--
AND YOU ARE
ME!

WE ARE ALL
TOGETHER!

I AM
THE WALRUS--
AT LEAST I
WAS!

WE'VE
GOT TO STOP
MEETING LIKE
THIS!

GUYS, I
THINK WE'VE BEEN
TRANSPORTED
INTO SOME KIND OF
WEIRD ZONE.

WE CAN
ALL AGREE
ON THAT...

ZEE IMPORTANT
THING EES...I THINK I
SEE ZEE EXIT!

COMING



SOON!

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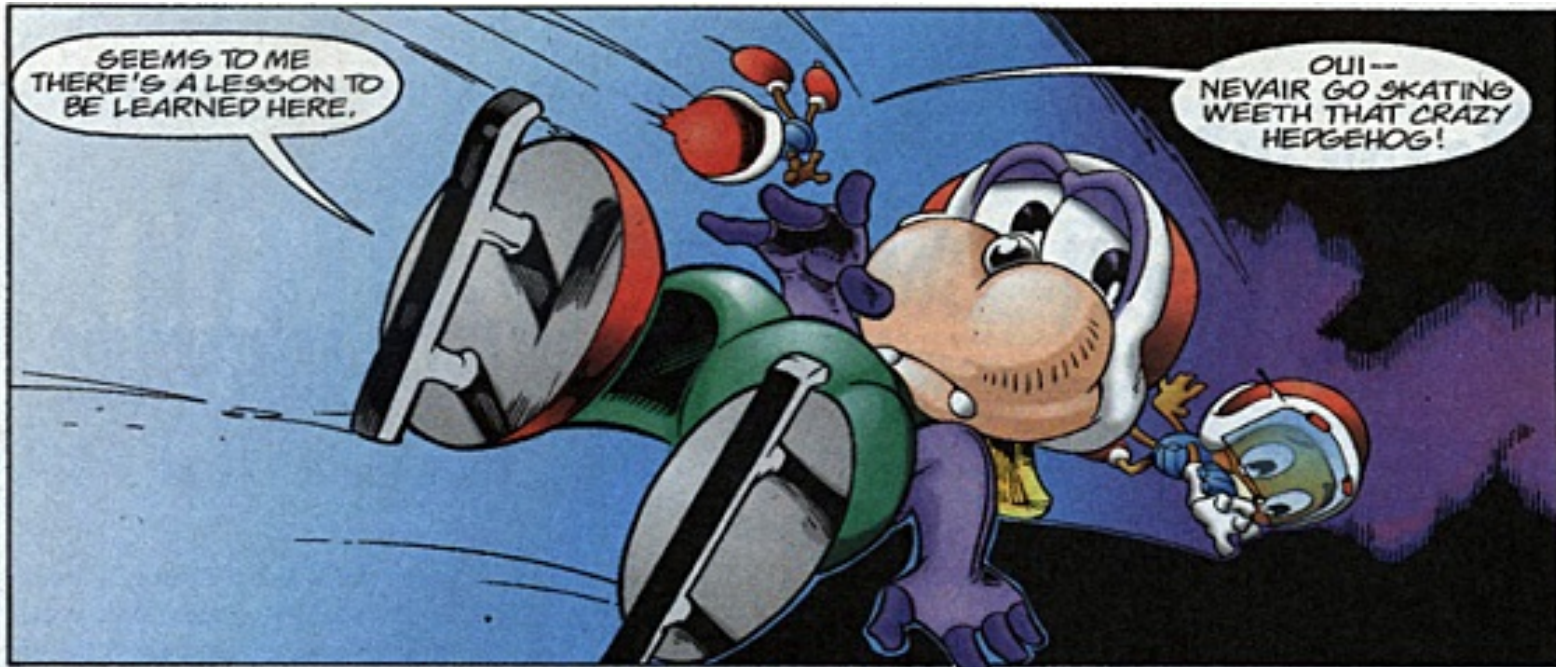
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MEGA-RAD!
I'VE BEEN PULLED
INSIDE A ZONE! WHAT
NONE OF MY FRIENDS KNOW
IS THAT I'VE BEEN IN ONE
BEFORE ... WITH RAY THE
SQUIRREL AND MIGHTY THE
ARMADILLO!*

* SONIC "COMPLETISTS" KNOW THAT THIS OCCURRED IN THE SONIC ARCADE GAME.
CARE TO SEE IT SERIALIZED IN A COMIC BOOK STORY? LOOK FOR IT IN KNUCKLES #26! --JFG



THIS ZONE
LOOKS BRAND NEW...
IN FACT,
IT'S STILL UNDER
CONSTRUCTION!



WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM
THESE RINGS, I'LL BET I CAN
FIND THE ACTUAL CREATOR OF
THIS NUTTY PLACE AND SEE
HOW IT'S DONE!



I'M GETTING CLOSE TO THE SOURCE... HEY! MAYBE THAT'S IT AT THE END OF THE HALL. I'LL SPEED UP AND SEE...



HEY-- I KNOW YOU! YOU'RE KING ACORN'S OLD WARLORD... JULIAN!

PLEASE--CALL ME **ROBOTNIK**! HOW DID YOU GET IN THE ZONE, LITTLE HEDGEHOG?



NEVER MIND THAT! WHY ARE YOU SNOOPING AROUND HERE? I DEMAND TO KNOW!

YOU DEMAND!?! HOW CUTE!



A PITY YOU WON'T BE ALIVE TO-- HEY! WHERE DID HE GO?

YOU'LL HAVE TO BE FASTER THAN THAT, CHUBBY-LIBBY!



HERE'S SOMETHING I'VE
BEEN WORKING ON... I CALL IT
MY "SONIC SPIN!"

KTANG!

DON'T DELAY ME, YOU
BLUE BOOB! I WAS JUST
ABOUT TO ENCOUNTER THE
ZONE'S CREATIVE FORCE!
IT'S A PRIMAL SOURCE
OF POWER THAT MUST
BE MINE!

NO-- STOP! DON'T!
YOU'VE DAMAGED THE
HYPER-DRIVE! IT'S
OVERLOADING!

CHUKA DOOOM!

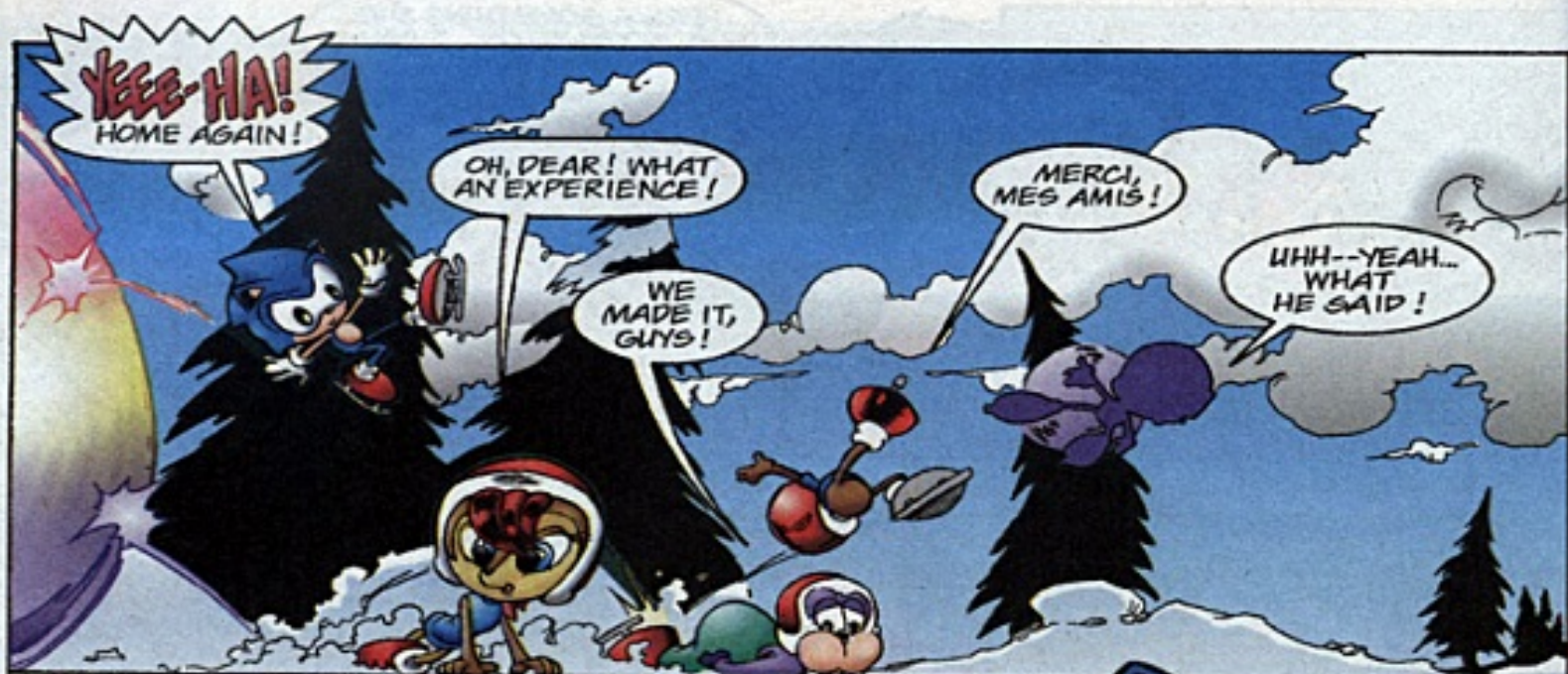
YOU KNOW, I'VE
BEEN RE-THINKING THAT
IDEA AND I DECIDED THAT
IT'S SOMETHING I'M NOT
SUPPOSED TO SEE...

AND IF I CAN'T
SEE IT, YOU SURE AREN'T
GOING TO!

I HATE
THAT LITTLE
HEDGEHOG!

OKAY, I CAN
TAKE A HINT... I
KNOW WHEN I'M
NOT WANTED!

AND I ALSO
KNOW WHAT I WANT...
AND THAT'S OUT
OF HERE!



THE END

SONIC GRAMS

SPECIAL



OFF PANEL By Gallagher and Manak

THIS JUST IN!

As you can see from the comic strip above, Pam's pretty tough. You can only imagine how scared I was when I did one of my bonehead moves of the month — which was giving credit to inker Jim Amash for two stories Pam Eklund inked. They were the Sonic story "Running On Empty" and Monkey Khan's solo story. Sorry, Pam (now please don't beat me up for real)!

With that said, I'd like to bring a spotlight on next issue's stories in SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #10: "Crossover Chaos," on sale early July: 1) From a story that begins in Sabrina The Teenage Witch #28: Sonic has been mind-controlled by a witch known as The Enchantress. With revenge in mind, she plucks Sonic out of his world and drops him into Sabrina's town of Westbridge to wreak unspeakable havoc. But don't fret, Princess Sally follows him through the portal to team-up with Sabrina and try to reverse the harm. Or is it too late? Story by Michael Gallagher with art by Dave Manak and Dan DeCarlo. 2) Evil Sonic is on the loose again as he collects all the pieces of Giant Borg (last seen way back in SONIC #19 "Night of 1000 Hedgehogs") from different dimensional Sonics. Our Sonic heads him off at the past in an alternate zone where he teams up with the characters from SONIC UNDERGROUND (Based on the cartoon in syndication soon).

Story by Karl Bollers with art by Jim Valentino and Harvol!

So until next time...

Catch you on the flip side!

Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited. Thanks for understanding!



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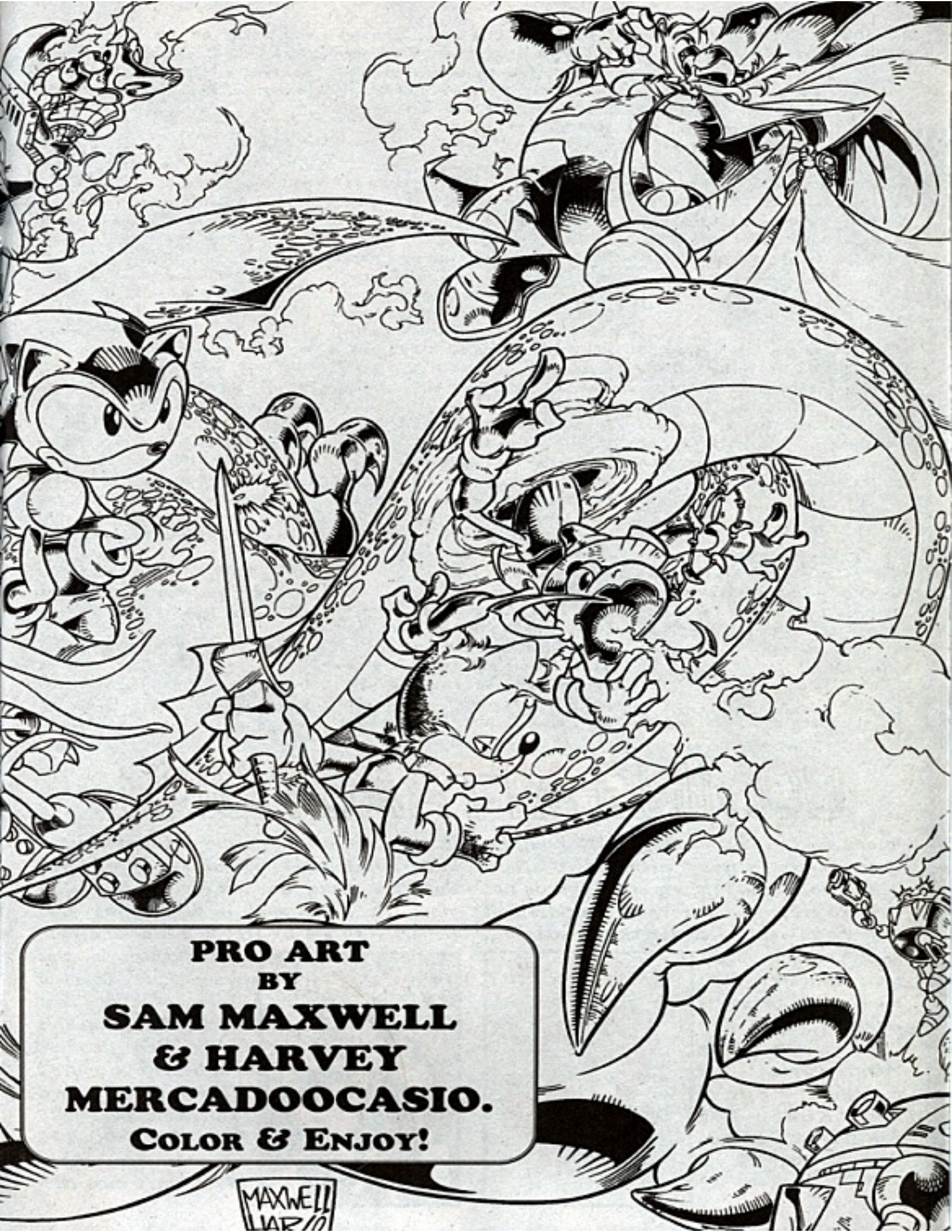
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& HARVEY
MERCADOOCASIO.
COLOR & ENJOY!**

MAXWELL
WR/12

**Re: SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #6
(SONIC 50-DIRECTOR'S CUT):**

Dear Sonic-Grams,

I just loved the "Director's Cut." Now the true nature of Robotnik's plans are revealed. I have a few questions about old Flabio: 1) How was Robotnik's arm roboticized? 2) I hope what Uncle Chuck said in SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #2 about Robotnik probably coming back (page 16) is not true, but how did Robotnik appear in issue #52? Could he be trying to trick us?

Michael Skumpija
(Age 15)
Howard Beach, NY

Glad you enjoyed SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #6, Michael. 1) The details are sketchy, but it seems it happened soon after Robotnik took over. Rumor has it, Sonic had something to do with it. 2) The Robotnik from issue #52 was from another zone.

Dear Knuckles,

A few weeks ago I read SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #6, also known as "Sonic 50-Director's Cut." Sonic and Knuckles have DONE so many beneficiary things for each other that I almost forget they started out not getting along at all! I'm glad you've forgiven each other?

Joel
VJ@pacific.net.sg

That's right, Joel. In fact,

there was a time when Knuckles was known as "Sonic's friendly nemesis." How times have changed since SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #13 to finally 'burying the hatchet' in SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #53.

Dear Sonic-Grams Special,

I'm a long-time reader and I absolutely love the art of Patrick "Spaz" Spaziante and Sam Maxwell. Sonic & Knuckles' comics rock! I've read "SUPER SONIC SPECIAL #6: SONIC 50-DIRECTOR'S CUT" seven times because I couldn't put it down. I felt there wasn't enough Spaz art-work, but there was plenty by Sam Maxwell. Question time: 1) Now that Robotnik's gone (hopefully), will Bunnie get deroboticized? 2) How could Warlord Kodos appear in issue #53 when he was vaporized by Feist in issue #43? 3) Will there be a Downunda Freedom Fighters mini-series? 4) Any plans for a prestige format ENDGAME collection or an ENDGAME animated movie done by the same people who did the ABC cartoon? I heard that there'll be an Image crossover. That'll prove that Sonic isn't a helpless woodland animal. I find that ironic since Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles was an Archie Adventure Series, then switched over to Image. Until Sonic 75, keep on juicin'!

Toby B. "T-Bone" May (age 16)
Elgin, IL

1) An upcoming story in SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11 will answer that question once and for all. 2) Simply put, the wizard Ixis Naugus had complete and utter power in that other zone and simply wished him back before

embarking on his invasion to Mobius. 3&4) No plans for one. However, as far as the D.F.F. are concerned, they will return soon.

Dear Sonic,

I recently got Sonic Super Special #6. I really enjoyed it; the scenes that were cut from Sonic # 50 were awesome! I've enjoyed all of your 48-page specials. Is SEGA planning on making a new Sonic game for their new system (known as "Katana")? Until then keep on juicin'!

Anthony Randolph
Dillwyn, VA

YES! SEGA will be debuting their new 128-bit system this Fall 1999 here in the U.S.! It is called 'THE DREAMCAST!' One of their new games is, of course, 'SONIC ADVENTURE!' Running at 60 frames per second in a total 3-D environment, (for someone who had the brief privilege of playing it) believe me when I tell you, you haven't seen anything like this! Even on the Playstation! NO JOKE!!!

Well, that's all for now. Thanks to everyone who wrote in so until next issue...

Keep it real!

Cover by Patrick Spaziante and Harvey Mercadoocasio. Colors and separations by Josh D. Ray.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

In one week: The cover says it all: Knuckles comes face-to-face with his father. "Childhood's End" is one story you do not want to miss. It is a story all Knuckles fans have been wanting to see since issue #1...

and now it's finally here. Knuckles' 25th anniversary issue is written by Ken Penders with art by Manny Galan and Andrew Pepoy! KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #25 on sale early April 1999!



In three weeks: This issue contains the full and undisclosed life-story of Doctor Robotnik from an unexpected point-of-view. "I, Robotnik!" is written by Karl Bollers with art by Steven Butler and Pam Eklund! Also in this issue: Part One of "Tales of the Great War!" By Knuckles writer Ken Penders with art by Art Mawhinney and Jim Amash. SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #72 on sale late April 1999! Don't miss it!



PRINCESS Sally

in: *My Secret Guardian*



OH, DEAR...
DID YOU REMEMBER
TO PACK HER VITAMINS,
ROSIE?

I DID,
JULAYLA... THEY'RE
IN ONE OF THE HALF
DOZEN SUITCASES OF
HER CLOTHES!

GOOD HEAVENS,
LADIES! WE'RE ONLY
GOING TO BE GONE A
FEW DAYS!

HURRY UP,
DADDY! LET'S GO
NOW! I CAN'T
WAIT FOR OUR TRIP
TO START!

I'M SO EXCITED!
WE NEVER GET TO BE
ALONE TOGETHER!

I KNOW, SWEET-
HEART. BEING KING TAKES
MOST OF MY TIME...BUT
BEING KING ALSO MEANS
YOU CAN GIVE YOURSELF
A VACATION WHENEVER
YOU WANT!

SOME TIME LATER...

Ahhh--I NEEDED TO GET AWAY, IT'S BEEN SO BUSY LATELY... WARLORD JULIAN AND HIS ODD LITTLE ASSISTANT, SNIVELY... ALSO, SIR CHARLES' INVENTIONS--

THAT'S MY FRIEND SONIC'S UNCLE!

BUT ENOUGH SHOP TALK! LET'S DISCUSS OUR VACATION.

YES! WHERE ARE WE GOING?

A SECRET PLACE KNOWN ONLY TO KINGS... AND PERHAPS, FUTURE QUEENS!

THAT'S IF ELIAS AND ALICIA MET WITH-- NO! I CAN'T EVEN THINK IT!

FOR NOW, AT LEAST, SALLY MUSTN'T LEARN THE TRUE REASON FOR THIS TRIP! SHE'S BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH.

EVEN THE COLONEL AND MRS. SOMMERSBY CAN'T KNOW WE'RE COMING!

ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING WHO I NEED TO SEE!


AND LO AND BEHOLD-- THERE IT IS--DEAD AHEAD!

OH, WOW!

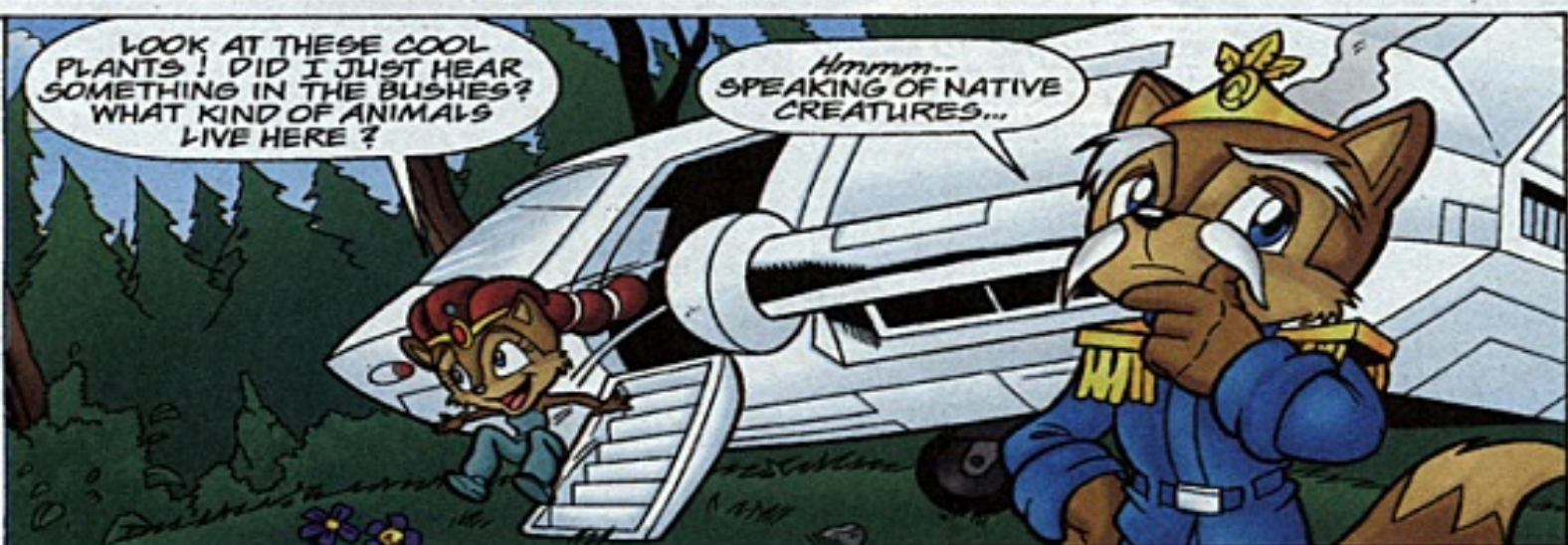


3 GASP!
IT--IT'S A
FLOATING
ISLAND!

EXACTLY! AND
WE'RE GOING TO SPEND
THE NEXT FEW DAYS
EXPLORING IT!



Hmmm--
VISITORS!





HARUMPH! WHEN I'M IN CHARGE OF MOBIUS, I WON'T LET MY ROYAL DUTIES INTERFERE WITH HAVING FUN!

I ALSO WON'T LET SOMEONE--OR SOMETHING SNEAK UP ON ME IN THE BUSHES..



NOBODY GETS THE DROP ON ME--

I'VE BEEN FIELD COMBAT TRAINED SINCE BEFORE I COULD WALK.

--INCLUDING YOU, STRANGER--COME OUT OF THERE NOW!

OKAY!



WHO ARE YOU?

THAT'S FUNNY! I WAS ABOUT TO ASK YOU THE SAME, SISTER!



I'M NOT YOUR SISTER--I'M AN ONLY CHILD... THE ONLY CHILD OF KING ACORN, RULER OF PLANET MOBIUS AND HEIR TO HIS THRONE!

WELL, I'M KNUCKLES, SON OF LOCKE AND NEXT IN LINE TO BE THE GUARDIAN OF THIS FLOATING ISLAND!

REALIZING HOW MUCH THEY HAVE IN COMMON, PRINCESS SALLY AND KNUCKLES BECAME FAST FRIENDS...

SO, YOU'RE VIOLATING YOUR APPRENTICESHIP RULES BY JUST TALKING TO ME? THAT'S PRETTY STRICT. YOUR DUTIES SOUND ALMOST AS DIFFICULT AS MINE!

ARE YOU KIDDING? I'VE GOT IT MUCH TOUGHER, I DON'T GET TO GO ON FRIVOLOUS VACATIONS LIKE YOU!

OH, DON'T BE SILLY! YOU CAN'T COMPARE RULING THE WHOLE PLANET TO GUARDING THIS SILLY LITTLE ISLAND!

"SILLY LITTLE"—HEY! WHO ARE YOU SHOVING?

KEEP YOUR HANDS AND YOUR SNOTTY REMARKS ABOUT MY HOME TO YOURSELF!

BOOF!
YOU JUST MADE A BIG MISTAKE, RED HOT SHOT!

MY MENTOR, JULAYLA, HAS TAUGHT ME A LOT OF THINGS— INCLUDING THIS "FLIP BACK KICK!" *

AAAAAGH!
FTUMPI!

* YEARS FROM NOW, SALLY WILL USE THIS SAME MOVE ON KNUCK. DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN IT WAS—OR RATHER WHEN IT WILL BE? WRITE SONIC GRAMS AND GET A SPECIAL MENTION ON AN UPCOMING LETTERS PAGE!
—THE ALL-SEES, ALL-KNOWING FREDITOR.





IN FACT, LOCKE MENTIONED THAT HE HAS A SON ABOUT YOUR AGE. I ASKED ABOUT HIM, BUT THE BOY WASN'T AVAILABLE.

OH, THAT'S OKAY, DADDY... I HAVE LOTS OF FRIENDS BACK HOME... SONIC, BOOMER, ANTOINE...

I'M JUST GLAD TO BE SPENDING TIME WITH YOU! C'MON--LET'S GO EXPLORING!

AWW-- WHAT A NICE THING TO SAY...

SO LONG FOR NOW, PRINCESS SALLY... I HAVE A FUNNY FEELING THAT OUR PATHS WILL CROSS AGAIN SOME DAY!

THE END...
and in many ways--
THE BEGINNING!!

SONIC KIDS

in:

eve of destruction

GOT YOU NOW,
SONIC--

MISSED ME
BY A COUNTRY
AND WESTERN MILE,
BOOMER!

LOOK OUT,
ANTOINE!

ooofah!

KIDS--SHHHH! COULD I
PLEASE ASK YOU TO TAKE YOUR
GAME SOMEPLACE ELSE?

SURE,
MR. PROWER!

SORRY--WE
FORGOT ABOUT YOUR
WIFE'S CONDITION.
C'MON, GUYS!

Ooooooog...
MY BELLY...



WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH
MRS.
PROWER?

SHE'S GOT A BABY IN
HER TUMMY. IT'S GOING TO
BE BORN ANY DAY NOW!

OH,
SO SHE LOOKS
LIKE ANTOINE
DOES?

VERY
FUNNY... Hs Hs--
OW! IT
HURTS WHEN I
LAUGH!



CHUCKLE!
KIDS ARE SO CUTE!
I'M REALLY LOOKING
FORWARD TO BEING
A FATHER...

AMADEUS...



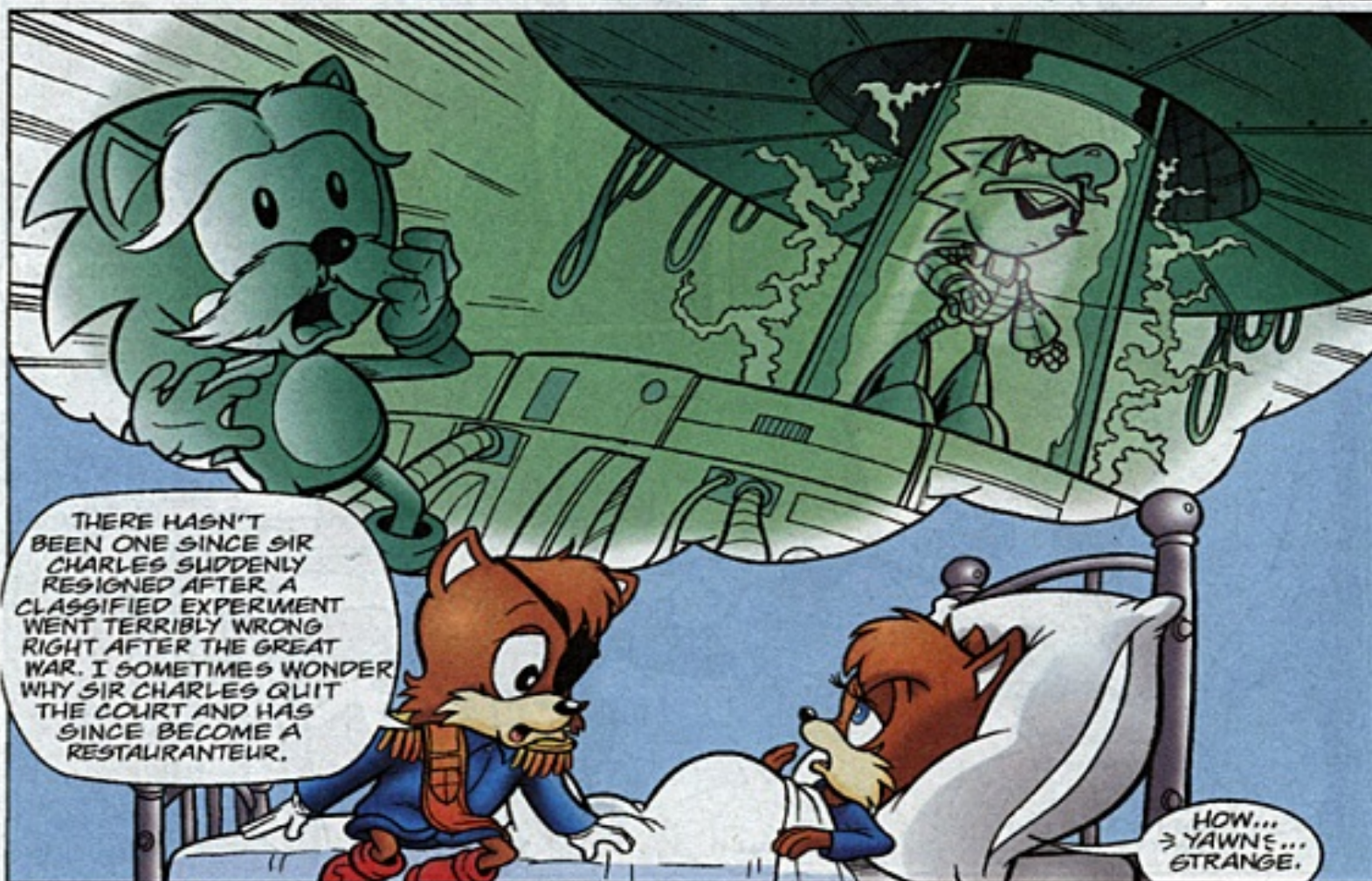
YOU DIDN'T
HAVE TO CHASE THE
CHILDREN AWAY.

THEY UNDERSTOOD,
ROSEMARY. BESIDES, YOU
SHOULD GET SOME REST
WHILE I'M ON DUTY.



I WISH YOU
DIDN'T HAVE TO GO
TO WORK TODAY. THE
BABY COULD COME
ANY TIME NOW...

I'M SORRY,
DARLING, BUT
DUTY CALLS.



BUT ENOUGH SHOP TALK.
YOU GET SOME REST, DARLING.
I'LL BE BACK SOON AFTER I
DISCUSS THE DEMOLITION
DETAILS WITH WARLOR--ERR--
MINISTER JULIAN.

GOODBYE,
MY LOVE...

THERE GOES
MR. PROWER

I CAN'T WAIT
UNTIL THE BABY'S
BORN... WE'LL HAVE A
NEW PLAYMATE!

I WONDAIR IF
IT WEEL BE MALE
OR FEMALE?

I'LL ASK HIM!

HEY, MR. PROWER.
DO YOU KNOW IF YOUR
KID'S GONNA BE A BOY
OR A GIRL?

CHUCKLE
NO, WE DON'T...

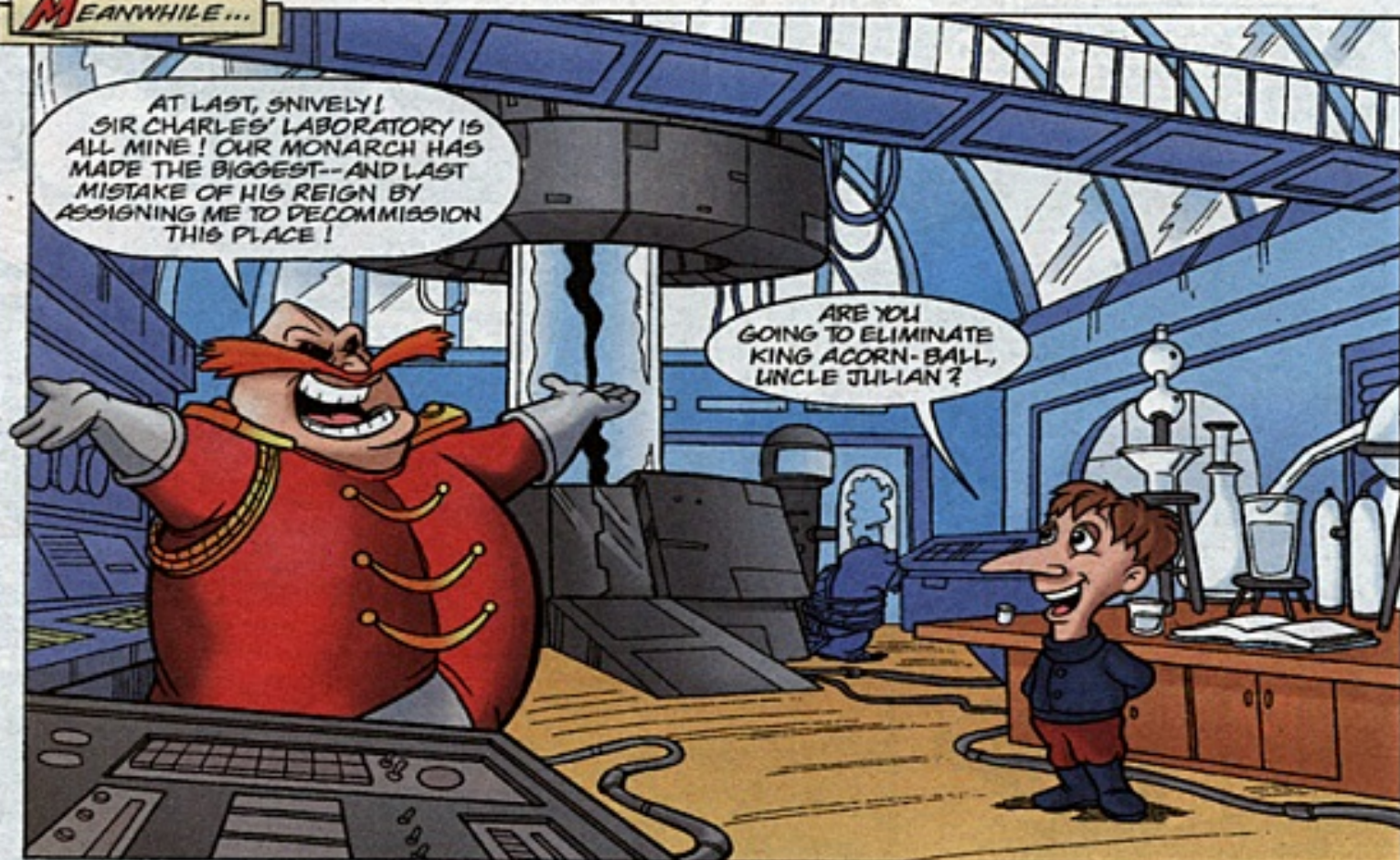
WHAT I DO KNOW IS THAT I NEED
YOU AND YOUR PALS TO KEEP AN
EYE ON MY HOUSE IN CASE
MRS. PROWER NEEDS HELP...
CAN YOU DO THAT FOR
ME, SONIC?

NO
PROBLEMO!

THANKS!
I'M GLAD THAT
MY SON OR DAUGHTER
WILL HAVE A FRIEND
LIKE YOU--

SO LONG.

SEE YA!



AT LAST, SNIVELY!
SIR CHARLES' LABORATORY IS
ALL MINE! OUR MONARCH HAS
MADE THE BIGGEST--AND LAST
MISTAKE OF HIS REIGN BY
ASSIGNING ME TO DECOMMISSION
THIS PLACE!

ARE YOU
GOING TO ELIMINATE
KING ACORN-BALL,
UNCLE JULIAN?



NO, THAT WOULD
BE FAR TOO SIMPLE. INSTEAD,
I SHALL SENTENCE HIS MAJESTY
TO AN ETERNITY OF TORTUROUS
SOLITUDE INSIDE THE ZONE OF
SILENCE! AS I DID WITH
WARLORD KODOS.



BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST...
SIR CHARLES' MASTERPIECE--
THE ROBOTICIZER! HAVE
WE PRODUCED A VOLUNTEER,
SNIVELY?

RIGHT HERE,
OH OVAL ONE!

AT THAT MOMENT,
OUTSIDE THE LAB...

NO ADMITTANCE
WITHOUT ROYAL
GUARD ESCORT.
NO EXCEPTIONS,
BY ORDER OF
KING ACORN.

NO!
DON'T--
PLEASE!
NOOOO...

STRANGE... MINISTER JULIAN WAS
SUPPOSED TO MEET ME HERE. HE
KNOWS IT'S A VIOLATION TO
GO INSIDE UNESCORTED.

WHAT'S HAPPENING
IN THERE? I'D BETTER
INVESTIGATE!

IT'S WORKING, SNIVELY!
SIR CHARLES' INVENTION TURNS
FLESH AND BLOOD INTO NUTS AND
BOLTS! BEST OF ALL, FREE WILL
IS REPLACED WITH MINDLESS
DEVOTION TO ME!

YOUR VILE VISION
FOR ENSLAVING PLANET
MOBIUS WILL SOON BE
REALITY!

BY THE KING'S
SWORD! JULIAN AND
HIS ASSISTANT ARE
TRAITORS! I MUST
STOP THEM!

YOUR-WISH-IS-
MY-COMMAND.

SCACKLE! OH, MY WISH IS
ABOUT TO COME TRUE! A WORLD
POPULATED BY MECHANICAL
CREATURES AND RULED BY ME!

WRONG,
OVERLANDER!

JULIAN KINTOBOR OF THE HOUSE OF IVO, YOU'RE UNDER ARREST-- YOU TOO, SNIVELY KINTOBOR. AS FOR THAT HORRID CREATURE YOU JUST CREATED, HE'LL BE 'EXHIBIT A' AT YOUR TREASON TRIAL!

I SINCERELY DOUBT THAT, COMMANDER PROWER... AND PLEASE-- CALL ME "DR. IVO ROBOTNIK!!!" "DR. JULIAN KINTOBOR" JUST DOESN'T HAVE THAT RING OF TERROR I WANT IN MY NAME!

ZULP!E

YOU SEE, I'VE BEEN PLANNING THIS MUTINY FOR A LONG TIME.

THIS MECHA-BEaver ISN'T THE FIRST MECHANICAL MINION I'VE CREATED...

I'M WARNING YOU, JULIAN--

--OR ROBOTNIK--OR WHATEVER! STAY STILL OR I'LL BE FORCED TO USE THIS OVERLANDER WEAPON!

ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T COME UP WITH SIR CHARLES' CLEVER ROBOTICIZER, I HAVE PERFECTED A ROBO-PROTOTYPE OF ANOTHER KIND...

FOR THE LAST TIME--

I CALL IT A "SWATBOT!"

EEEBYAAAA--

AT THE SAME MOMENT:

EEEEYAAAA--

JUMPING CHILI BEANS! THAT SCREAM CAME FROM MRS. PROWER! C'MON, GUYS!

ARRGH!

COMING, MRS. PROWER!

I THINK I KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE. YOU TWO DOUBLE BACK AND GET MY WAGON-- QUICK!

RIGHT!

OOOOHHH--THE BABY'S COMING! I--3 HUFF-PUFFS-- HAVE TO GET TO DR. QUACK'S INFIRMARY!

SHE'S IN LABOR! THERE'S NO WAY SHE CAN WALK, SALLY!

DON'T WORRY, MRS. PROWER--WE'LL GET YOU THERE!

HURRY, SONIC. HER CONTRACTIONS ARE HAPPENING FASTER!

Uhhhhgh...

'FASTER' IS MY MIDDLE NAME! HANG ON, LADIES!

ZROOOOSH!!

A SHORT WHILE LATER:







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I PROMISE TO HONOR YOU, FATHER--

--TO HELP THE POOR, THE NEEDY, THE DISPOSSESSED--AND ALL THE FORGOTTEN VICTIMS!

ON YET ANOTHER RESTLESS NIGHT, THE DETERMINED YET TROUBLED YOUNG MAN WANDERS INTO THE BLACKNESS OF NIGHT--

-- BUT IT'S SOMETHING MUCH LIGHTER THAT CATCHES HIS EYE...

THAT STAR ABOVE ME-- I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING SO BRIGHT! IT'S MAGNETIC-- DRAWING ME FORWARD-- I MUST SEE WHERE IT LEADS ME!

LIKE A ZOMBIE UNDER AN HYPNOTIC SPELL, STERLING IS DRAWN TO AN IRON FOUNDRY WHERE HE DOES THE UNIMAGINABLE AND DIVES INTO THE FURNACE!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I DID THIS... AND YET, I'M STILL HERE TO TALK ABOUT IT! I SHOULD BE ASH--

...BUT STRANGELY, I FEEL PROTECTED, AS IF BY SOME INVISIBLE FORCE FIELD!

AGHH! LET ME GO, MAN-- YOUR GRIP IS LIKE STEEL!

THE NEXT DAY, STEEL AWAKENS IN HIS BED, CERTAIN HE WAS ONLY DREAMING. BUT WHEN SOME CROOKS TRY TO ROB HIM IN THE BAD PART OF TOWN...

THE BULLETS-- THEY JUST BOUNCE OFF OF HIM!

STEEL, HUH? THEN IT WASN'T A DREAM-- MY SKIN'S BECOME TEMPERED LIKE STEEL IN A FORGE-- PRACTICALLY INVINCIBLE!

IN ADDITION TO HIS SUPER STRENGTH, HE LEARNS HE IS ALSO AGELESS, AND AS THE YEARS GO BY, THE PROMISE HE MADE TO FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT IS UPHOLD BY... STEEL STERLING!

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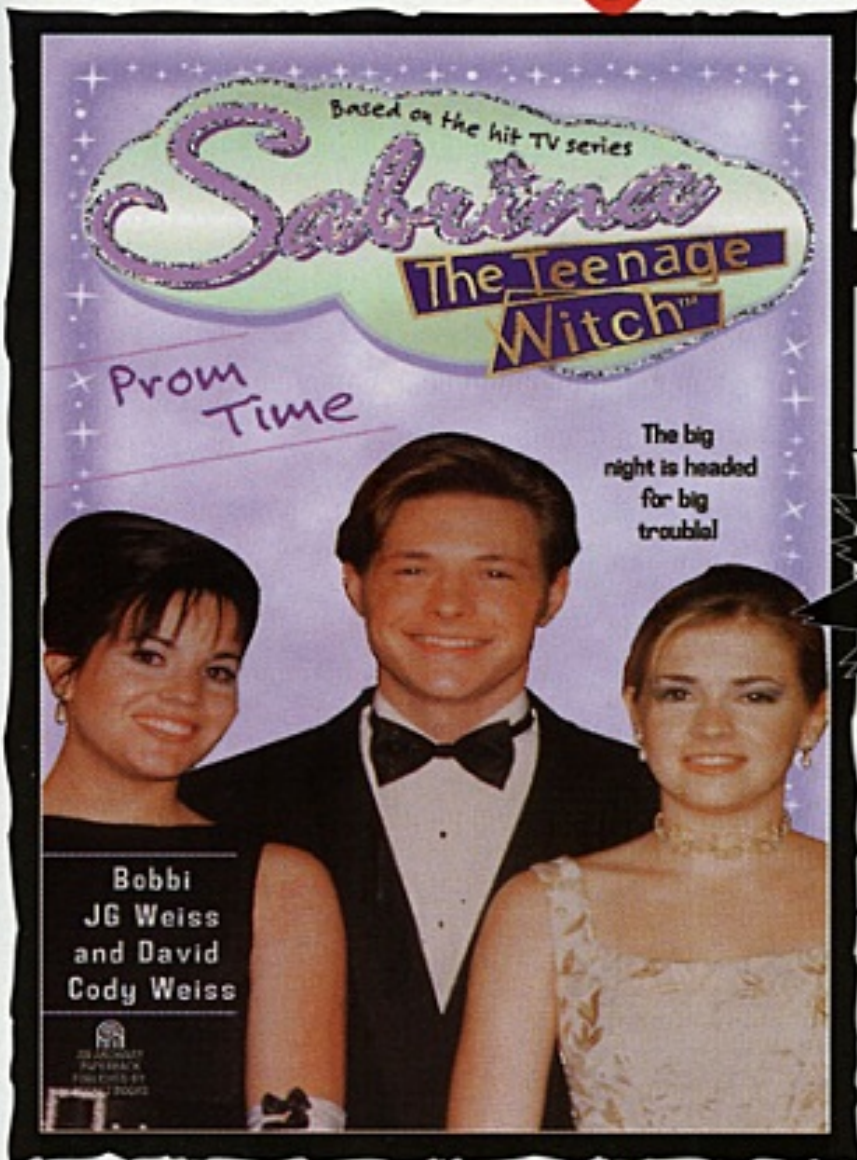
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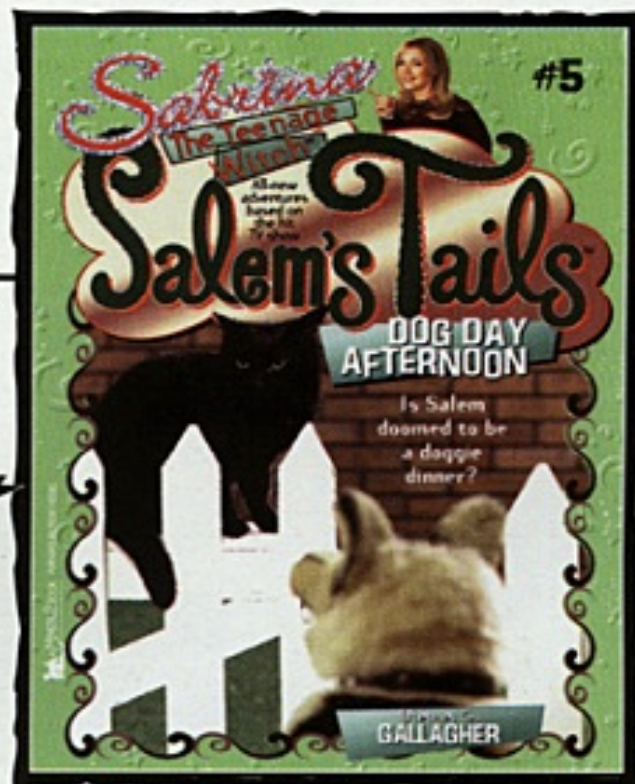
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